

Where Should I Go For Care?

Know Where to Go: ER vs Urgent Care vs Stand-Alone ER

Emergency Department (Hospital ER)

Best for **life-threatening conditions**

- Chest pain that radiates to your arm and jaw, sweating, vomiting or shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- Fever with rash
- Major burns
- Pregnancy complications
- Severe head injury, sudden confusion or weakness

What to expect:

- Located inside a hospital
- Full access to specialists and advanced care
- Open 24/7
- Higher cost, longer wait times depending on severity

Urgent Care

Best for **non-life-threatening conditions**

- Allergies and sinus infections
- Earaches
- Fever
- Flu symptoms
- Abdominal pain - mild
- Minor breaks, sprains, cuts or burns
- Rash or allergic reactions
- Vomiting and diarrhea

What to expect:

- Walk-in clinics
- Shorter wait times
- Lower cost than ER
- Limited hours and services

Stand-Along Emergency Room (Freestanding ER)

Best for **serious conditions when a hospital ER is not nearby**

- Can treat most emergencies, similar to a hospital ER
- Not physically connected to a hospital

What to expect:

- Open 24/7
- ER-level care and pricing
- May transfer patients to a hospital if admission is needed

**Always call
9-1-1
for
emergencies.**